

CITY
EDITION

The New Haven

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NEW HAVEN 3, CONN., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1963

JOHNSON PLUNGES

Register

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TOMORROW: Cloudy, Milder
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INTO TASK

Moves To Offices In The White House

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Johnson moved today from temporary quarters into the oval presidential office in the White House, feeling "our whole system is on trial" because of the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

Since the murder of President Kennedy on Friday in Dallas, Johnson had conducted the presidency from his old vice presidential quarters in the Executive Office Building next door to the White House.

On tap for the first day in the new office were meetings with foreign dignitaries and preparation of an address Wednesday to a joint session of Congress.

System On Trial

Johnson, in his first speech since becoming chief executive, made evident Monday night his belief that the Kennedy assassination puts the American system to a severe test and must prompt renewed efforts to prove that the system, despite one sniper's act, is superior to any other.

Beyond that, Johnson pledged "continuity without confusion"—a continuation of Kennedy administration programs and policy aims without any immediate shakeup of top officials that might puzzle and perturb the nation and the world.

The governors said that Johnson appealed specifically for support for Kennedy's two principal domestic programs—the omnibus civil rights bill and the \$11-billion tax cut—although excerpts from the speech released by the White House did not include this.

Johnson's assessment of the needs of the day was delivered off the cuff to 35 state governors who met with him long after sunset.

Late Meeting

This was not his final meeting of the busy day. His schedule was topped off by a late evening session with Secretary of the Treasury Douglas Dillon and the Council of Economic Advisers. This meeting took up the tax cut proposal and the broad outlines of the federal budget that will go to Congress in January.

Johnson headed for his home in the Spring Valley section of the city at 10:45 p.m., giving every sign that, even before moving into the White House,

he was operating under a full head of steam.

For today, Johnson lined up conferences with some of the many foreign dignitaries who flew to Washington for the Kennedy funeral.

Johnson arranged to visit with the new British prime minister, Sir Alec Douglas-Home; with the president of the Philippines, Diosdado Macapagal, and with the new West German chancellor, Ludwig Erhard.

Met At Reception

The President saw all three—and many more—at a reception Monday night at the State Department, before he met with the governors.

In addition to greeting all foreign delegates to the Kennedy funeral, Johnson spent 18 minutes privately with President Charles de Gaulle of France, eight minutes with Prime Minister Lester Pearson of Canada and 12 minutes with Prime Minister Hayato Ikeda of Japan.

Speaking to the governors, Johnson said: "Circumstances over which I had no control brought me into this position that I occupy tonight. The difficulties and the tribulations are great and this is the time when our whole system is on trial—not just the Republican party

and the Democratic party but the American system of government."

He went on to speak of the often-superior resources of the Soviet Union—in population, farmlands and water.

Then he said: "The thing that is really to determine whether we win or lose in this struggle of philosophies is how well our

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JOHNSON MOVES HIS OFFICES

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system works, we think we have the best system."

He said capital, labor and management combine "to give us the end product that we call free enterprise."

Continuity Is Key

Taking account of the inevitable transition between the Kennedy administration and his own, Johnson said: "I think continuity without confusion has got to be our password and has to be the key to our system."

He said he would tell Congress "that we intend to honor the commitments we have made at home and abroad" under Kennedy and that "I understand my own limitations, but I am going to do the best I can with your help and God's."

Johnson asked the governors